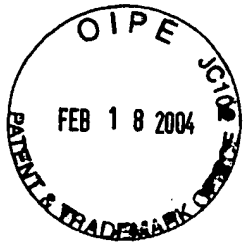


PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No.: ARUMI

In re Request for Continued Examination
in PATENT Application of:

JOSE GARCIA ARUMI ET AL

Appl. No.: 09/935,869

Filed: August 23, 2001

For: MICRO SURGICAL INSTRUMENT

) Examiner: Jessica R. Baxter

) Group Art Unit: 3731

RECEIVED

FEB 25 2004

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MAIL STOP/FEE AMENDMENTS
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Express Mail mailing label number: EV 363055131 US

Date of Deposit: February 18, 2004

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

BARBARA ERNZERHOFF-SNOW

(Name of person mailing paper or fee)

(Signature)

S I R:

In response to the Official Action of September 23, 2003 having a shortened period for response expiring December 23, 2003, the Commissioner is hereby requested to extend the period for response further by ONE month to February 23, 2004. A ONE month extension of time has been paid previously on January 23, 2004 with an Amendment After Final, so that the fee for only the second month extension is now due.

02/20/2004 SSITHIB1 00000056 09935869

02 FC:1252
03 FC:1202

310.00 OP
18.00 OP

- ☒ [X] Accompanying this amendment is the appropriate fee of \$310.00 pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.17(c) and 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a).
- ☐ [] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the appropriate fee of \$ pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.17(c) and 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) and any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-0502.
- ☒ [X] The Commissioner is hereby also authorized to charge any fees which may be required during the pendency of this application, including any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.17, and any filing fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16, including presentation of extra claims, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No: 06-0502.

Please amend the above-entitled application as follows:



02-19-04

PATENT

RCE/3731

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No.: ARUMI

In re PATENT Application of:

JOSE GARCIA ARUMI ET AL

Appl. No.: 09/935,869

Filed: August 23, 2001

For: MICRO SURGICAL INSTRUMENT)

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)
) Examiner: Jessica R. Baxter

)
) Group Art Unit: 3731

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL

Express Mail mailing label number: EV 363055131 US

Date of Deposit: February 18, 2004

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

BARBARA ERNZERHOFF-SNOW

(Name of person mailing paper or fee)

(Signature)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
S I R:

THIS IS A REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) UNDER
37 C.F.R. §1.114 OF THE ABOVE APPLICATION.

RECEIVED

FEB 25 2004

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. §1.114

TECHNOLOGY CENTER HQ/00

a. ☐ Previously submitted

i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. §1.116,
previously filed on .

ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief
previously filed on .

iii. ☐ Other

02/20/2004 SSITHIB1 00000056 09935869

01 FC:1801

770.00 0P

- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/reply.
 - ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - iii. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - iv. ☐ Other

2. Miscellaneous

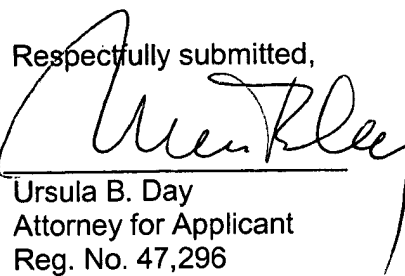
- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. §1.103 (c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other

3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. §1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☐ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 06-0502.
- i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
 - ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
 - iii. ☐ Other: Fee
- b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$1098.00 to cover the filing fee of \$770.00, the fee of \$18.00 for filing one claim in excess of twenty and the fee of \$310.00 (two months extension fee minus the fee for a one month extension previously paid) is enclosed.
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (From PTO-2038 enclosed)
- d. ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 06-0502.

Respectfully submitted,

By:


Ursula B. Day
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 47,296

Date: February 18, 2004
350 Fifth Avenue, Suite 4714
New York, N.Y. 10118
(212) 244-5500